

**Introduced by Senator Lowenthal**

August 10, 2006

---

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 132—Relative to Hybrid Vehicle Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 132, as introduced, Lowenthal. Hybrid Vehicle Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of November 2006 as Hybrid Vehicle Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Today the average person drives 15,000 miles per  
2 year, representing an increase of approximately 150 percent since  
3 1970; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the American Automobile  
5 Association (AAA) Daily Fuel Gauge Report, gasoline prices in  
6 the State of California are among the highest in the country,  
7 having doubled in the last four years; and

8 WHEREAS, The average price of gasoline in California has  
9 reached three dollars (\$3) per gallon nearly one dollar (\$1) per  
10 gallon more now than it was a year ago; and

11 WHEREAS, The most fuel efficient hybrid vehicles are able to  
12 drive more than 45 miles on a gallon of gas, far exceeding the  
13 current U.S. national average fuel economy standard of 27.5  
14 miles per gallon for passenger vehicles; and

15 WHEREAS, Switching from a conventional vehicle that runs  
16 solely on gasoline to a hybrid vehicle can significantly improve

1 fuel efficiency, thereby reducing petroleum demand and foreign  
2 oil dependency; and

3 WHEREAS, Of the many decisions consumers make, their  
4 choice of vehicle will have a significant impact on the  
5 environment and air quality; and

6 WHEREAS, Increased use of hybrid vehicles relative to  
7 conventional, gasoline powered vehicles can reduce carbon  
8 dioxide emissions, a leading cause of global warming; and

9 WHEREAS, Replacing conventional vehicles with hybrid  
10 vehicles can reduce other air pollutants that, according to the  
11 National Safety Council, contribute to health problems including  
12 cancer, birth defects, respiratory illness, heart and lung disease,  
13 and asthma; and

14 WHEREAS, According to R.L. Polk & Company, California  
15 led the nation with over 52,000 new hybrid vehicle registrations  
16 in the year 2005, accounting for 26.4 percent of the nation's  
17 share of new hybrid vehicles; and

18 WHEREAS, The Department of Motor Vehicles reports that  
19 presently, there are over 28 million registered passenger vehicles  
20 in California, and about 102,000 of those, or 3.6 percent, are  
21 hybrid vehicles; and

22 WHEREAS, According to a 2005 survey conducted by  
23 KPMG, automobile industry leaders believe sales of hybrid cars,  
24 as well as other fuel efficient models, will outpace sales of sport  
25 utility vehicles, pickups, and luxury models over the next five  
26 years; and

27 WHEREAS, According to J.D. Power and Associates, there  
28 will be approximately 35 hybrid vehicle model choices available  
29 to consumers in 2008 and over 50 models by 2012; and

30 WHEREAS, Education about hybrid vehicles raises awareness  
31 and encourages further development of transportation choices  
32 that can shape a more sustainable future; and

33 WHEREAS, According to a survey conducted by AAA of  
34 Northern California, 86 percent of its members who drive would  
35 like more education on hybrid and other alternative fueled  
36 vehicles; now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
38 *thereof concurring*, That the month of November 2006 is hereby  
39 officially designated Hybrid Vehicle Awareness Month; and be it  
40 further

- 1     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2     this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O